

**House of Representatives
Financial Institutions and Insurance
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2003**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	SUBJECT	TYPE
September 18-19	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	(1) Insurance Underwriting and the Claim Loss Underwriting Exchange (2) Insurance Claims Adjustment and the Colossus Program (3) Liability Insurance Study	Work Session
November TBA	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	Liability Insurance Study	Public Hearing/ Work Session
December 4-5	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	(1) Liability Insurance Study (2) Overdraft Protection (3) Biometrics and Personal Identification	Public Hearing/ Work Session

Project Title: Liability Insurance Study

Priority: 1

Completion Date: December 2003

Committee / Staff: Thamas Osborn

Reference:

Other Resources: Staff of the Health Care and
Judiciary Committees

Project Description: Today there is increasing concern across various markets and constituencies regarding the availability and cost of liability insurance. In many markets, such insurance is either unavailable or is available only at rates that are prohibitively high. The problems relating to liability insurance are widespread, and are being felt both in the State of Washington and throughout the nation. The availability of such insurance, at affordable rates, is essential to the continued operation of many businesses and is therefore critical to the well-being of the state's economy. A variety of constituent groups have approached the legislature seeking legislative solutions. The Committee will investigate the broad public policy concerns relevant to this issue, explore issues to develop an understanding of the current status of the liability insurance market, and determine the availability of such insurance across a wide variety of markets. In cases where the study becomes market specific, the chairs and ranking minority members of the appropriate committees will be invited to participate. This study will involve three meetings of the full Committee.

Project Title: Insurance Underwriting and the Claim Loss Underwriting Exchange

Priority: 2

Completion Date: December 2003

Committee / Staff: Thamas Osborn

Reference:

Other Resources:

Project Description: Increasingly, insurers are using a national database known as the Claim Loss Underwriting Exchange (CLUE) in order to access prior claims information for use in the underwriting and rating process. The CLUE database contains information about the claims history of specific properties as well as information about losses for which no claim was filed. The Committee will review issues regarding the use of the CLUE database and will examine the practices of Washington insurers regarding the use of CLUE.

Project Title: Insurance Claims Adjustment and the use of the Colossus program

Priority: 3

Completion Date: December 2003

Committee / Staff: Thamas Osborn

Reference:

Other Resources:

Project Description: Insurance companies often use computer programs in the process of evaluating insurance claims. A program known as Colossus is routinely used within the industry in order to evaluate claims involving bodily injury. The Committee will examine issues relating to the industry's use of the Colossus program in the adjustment of insurance claims.

Project Title: Bank Account Overdraft Protection

Priority: 4

Completion Date: December 2003

Committee / Staff: Thamas Osborn

Reference:

Other Resources:

Project Description: Many financial institutions provide customers with a type of overdraft protection that allows them to overdraw their checking accounts through the use of a debit card or an ATM machine. Customers are then charged a fee for each overdraft. The committee will examine the issues surrounding the practices of Washington financial institutions with respect to such overdraft protection.

Project Title: Personal Identification Through Biometrics

Priority: 5

Completion Date: December 2003

Committee / Staff: Thamas Osborn

Reference:

Other Resources:

Project Description: Biometrics is an evolving computer technology that enables the identification of a person by reference to his/her physiological or behavioral characteristics. The various types of biometric identification include retinal scans, face recognition, speech recognition, fingerprint matching, and hand geometry. The Committee will examine this technology as it pertains to the identification of individuals with respect to financial transactions and as a tool for the prevention of financial fraud and identity theft.

Project Title: Monitor Interim Activity of Congress and Other State Legislatures

Priority: 6

Completion Date: December 2003

Committee / Staff: Thamas Osborn

Reference:

Other Resources:

Project Description: The Committee will monitor the activities of Congress and other state legislatures with respect to financial and/or insurance issues.

Project Title: Monitor the Interim Activities of Washington State Agencies

Priority: 7

Completion Date: December 2003

Committee / Staff: Thamas Osborn

Reference:

Other Resources:

Project Description: The Committee will monitor the activities of the state Department of Financial Institutions, the Office of the Insurance Commissioner, the State Investment Board, the Pollution Liability Insurance Agency, and other agency activities related to financial and/or insurance issues.